

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An ID card-making apparatus comprising card-making means for detecting a photograph portion from image data, extracting a target image from the detected photograph portion, and making an ID card based on the target image.

2. An ID card-making apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

image reading means for reading an image from a predetermined area, within which at least a photograph is present;

photograph position detection means for detecting a photograph portion from image data obtained by the image reading means;

photographic image extraction means for extracting a photographic image from the photograph portion detected by the photograph position detection means, said photographic image being extracted from an area which is inside a region defined by the photograph edge detected by the photograph position detection means and which excludes the photograph edge; and

ID card-making means for making an ID card to which the photographic image extracted by the photographic image extraction means.

3. An ID card-making apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

image reading means for reading an image from an

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area that is large enough to include a photograph of predetermined size attached to a predetermined application form;

5 photograph position detection means for detecting a photograph edge from image data obtained by the image reading means;

10 photographic image extraction means for extracting a photographic image from an area which is inside a region defined by the photograph edge detected by the photograph position detection means and which excludes the photograph edge; and

ID card-making means for making an ID card to which the photographic image extracted by the photographic image extraction means is attached.

15 4. An ID card-making apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

20 image reading means for reading an image from an area that is large enough to include a photograph of predetermined size attached to a predetermined application form;

photograph position detection means for detecting a photograph edge from image data obtained by the image reading means;

25 photographic image extraction means for extracting a photographic image from an area which is inside a region defined by the photograph edge detected by the photograph position detection means and which excludes

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the photograph edge;

figure image extraction means for extracting a figure portion from the photographic image extracted by the photographic image extracting means;

5 background image storage means for storing background image data;

image synthesis means for producing a composite image by synthesizing the background image data stored in the background image storage means with figure
10 portion data extracted by the figure image extraction means; and

card-making means for making an ID card to which the composite image produced by the image synthesis means is attached.

15 5. An ID card-making apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said background image storage means includes a storage section for storing background image data into which forgery preventing data is inserted.

20 6. An ID card-making apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said background image storage means includes a storage section for storing at least one of: background image data into which an ID code for forgery prevention is inserted; and background image data into which a plurality of predetermined marks for forgery
25 prevention are inserted.

7. An ID card-making method comprising the steps for detecting a photograph portion from image data,

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a photograph/ position detection step for detecting

a photograph edge from image data obtained in the image reading step;

5 a photographic image extraction step for extracting a photographic image from an area which is inside a region defined by the photograph edge detected in the photograph position detection step and which excludes the photograph edge;

10 a figure image extraction step for extracting a figure portion from the photographic image extracted in the photographic image extracting step;

an image synthesis step for producing a composite image by synthesizing background image data stored beforehand with figure portion data extracted in the figure image extraction step; and

15 a card-making step for making an ID card to which the composite image produced in the image synthesis step is attached.

20 10. An ID card-making method according to claim 9, wherein said image synthesis step synthesizes the background image data, into which forgery prevention data is inserted, with the figure portion data extracted in the figure image extraction step.

25 11. An ID card which is made by detecting a photograph portion from image data, extracting a target image from the photograph portion, and using the target image.

12. An ID card according to claim 11, comprising a

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photographic image attached thereto, said photographic image being made by reading an image from an area that is large enough to include a photograph graph of predetermined size attached to a predetermined application form; detecting a photograph edge from obtained image data; and extracting a photographic image from an area which is inside a region defined by the detected photograph edge and which excludes the photograph edge; and using the extracted photograph.

13. An ID card according to claim 11, comprising a composite image that is made by: reading an image from an area that is large enough to include a photograph of predetermined size attached to a predetermined application form; detecting a photograph edge from obtained image data; extracting a photographic image from an area which is inside a region defined by the detected photograph edge and which excludes the photograph edge; extracting figure portion data from the extracted photographic image; and producing a composite image by synthesizing background image data stored beforehand with the extracted figure portion data.

14. An ID card according to claim 13, wherein said background image data includes forgery prevention data.

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